

*L'historia Secreta di Cofimo
Segondo, primo Gran Duca
di Fiorenza, viz.*

T H E

Secret History

O F

COSIMOS II.

First Great Duke of FLORENCE.

Translated out of an *Italian* Manuscript.

Never before Published.



Printed, in the Year of Jubilee, at *Verona*.

Historia Secreta de Cosimo
Segundo primo Gran Duca

de Medicis, etc.

1608/4566

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First Great Duke of Florence.

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TO THE READER.



N handsome Entry becomes a small Country-house, as well as the state-liest Palace, provided the Porch does neither exceed nor equal in Bulk the Body of the *Main Fabrick*; wherefore it will not be amiss to Preface some few Things, both in regard of the Antiquity of the *Medicean Family*, and of the *Author* of this *Short Historical Treatise*. This Princely House has been attended with those contrary and inseparable Accidents that always accompany all that is called Great, (*viz*) with *Detraction and Flattery*; some deriving its Original from obscure Merchants, most unknown and Nameless, before the Great *Cosmos*, who, by his Correspondence in all parts of the Trading World, and by the vast Treasures of *Balthazar Cossa*, call'd *Pope John the xxiii.* (deposed in the Council of *Constance*, and buried in *Florence*, who is thought to have inform'd him where his great Riches lay) over-top'd all the *Florentines* in Prosperity and Plentiful Fortunes.

Other Historians, because of the Arms of the Family, and the Name *de Medicis*, conclude their Ancestors to have been Practitioners in *Physick* or *Chirurgery*; 'tis known their Arms to be several *Balls*, in number commonly Seven, tho' some *I-*

To the READER.

Italian Writers observe that sometimes Nine, and sometimes Five have been made use of, which are supposed to denote *Wash-balls*, marks of the Profession; and more especially, considering that on a Gate in *Rome*, commonly called *Porta Pio*, Repaired by *Pius* the Fourth, of the *Medicean Family*, there are cut in Stone by *Michael Angelo*, besides the seven Balls, a Basin and a foursquare Looking-Glass, upon which hangs a folded Towel : which, if true, does no way disparage the future Grandeur of the Family, for *Physicians* have been always honour'd by the greatest of Kings, and Antiquity placed *Esculapius*, in the number of the Immortal Gods. Neither do Noblemen in *Italy* believe it inconsistent with their Birth, to meet dayly at the Exchange, while their Wives do ride in Coaches with the handfomest and richest Equipages; thus they preserve their Families from sinking, and are enabled to buy their Children great Offices in the Courts of Princes, where none asks them, whether by Sea or Land, by brandishing a Sword or by managing a Pen, they come to their respective Dignities.

But some mount it a great deal higher, making it a Branch of the *Ubalдинies*, a very ancient Family, upon no other ground, but that *Azzo Ubaldini* had his Son *Bricco* surnamed by some, *il Medico*. And, some to make their Court the better to *Catherine de Medicis* Queen of *France*, would have perswaded her she was of *French Extraction*, and that Three Hundred years before, one *Julian de Medicis* went out of *Poitou* into *Italy* with a Troop of Horse, which he carried to the Service of the Republick of

To the READER.

of Florence, But *Malaspini* and *Giovanni Villani* who, in their Histories give a Catalogue of all the Noble Families of Florence, make no mention of that of the *Medicis*; they observe moreover, that Noble Families only had the Privileges of building high Towers on their Houses, but take no notice that the *Medicean* House, had any such distinguishing Elevation. Many such high-steeped Houses are still to be seen in *Sienna*, which to a Stranger, at first sight, seem to be so many Churches. The same *Villani*, treating of the Nobility of Florence, makes mention of *Populari Grassi* (*viz.*) what we call Gentlemen, distinguished from the vulgar Sort, not by Places of Honour, nor Patents of Nobility, but by Plentiful Fortunes and large Possessions, acquir'd by their own Industry, or handed to them from rich Ancestors, and of this Order, as 'tis very probable, was the Family of the *Medicis*, in the time of the Common-wealth of Florence.

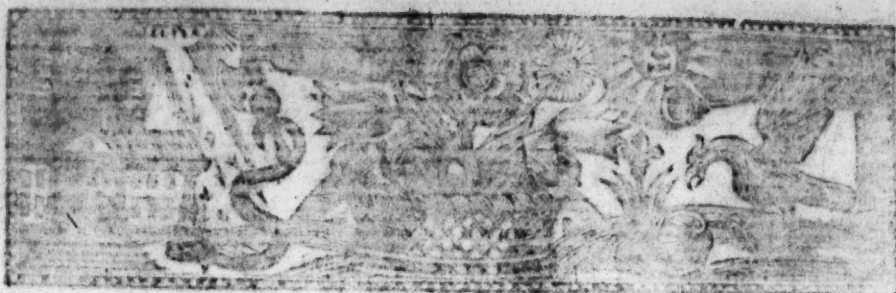
The Author of this History was certainly a *Florentine*, as may be gathered from his Style, and several Idioms peculiar to that People, who have always been esteemed the *Athenians* of Italy; and, by many minute Circumstances herein describ'd, 'tis likely he liv'd Contemporary with, or not much after, the Time of the Great Duke *Cosmos*, for in the Year 1608. 'tis observed that the Corps of the Wife of *Pietro de Medicis*, Assassinated for her Lewdness, was yet preserv'd from Putrefaction, and seemed white as if but Sleeping. *Varillas* makes mention of some Secret History relating to this Family, kept in the King of France his Library, but gives no further account of it; and Count *Fidi*, the present

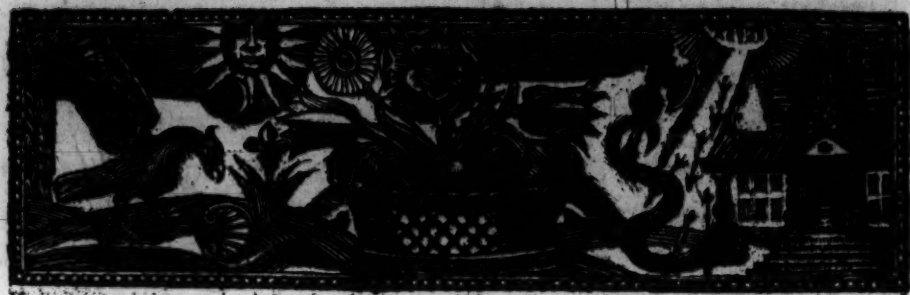
To the READER.

present Great Duke's Minister at the Pope's Court, used Entreaties, Menaces, and all other means possible to procure a Short History relating to his Master's Family, from the Library of the Learned *Severini*; and I was informed by a good Hand, that it was this very same, and that it was never hitherto Published; neither should it now be made Common, but that I hope it will encourage all its Readers to run with greater Chearfulness and Alacrity in the fair Pathes of Virtue, by seeing, as in a Mirrour, Vice and Lewdness, attended with all sorts of afflicting, opprobrious and tremendous dreadful Consequences. Another such History of *Francis*, the second Great Duke, is no less Curious and Remarkable, and will in time be Published, provided this meets with some Approbation.



THE





T H E

Secret History

O F

COSIMOS II,

First Great Duke of FLORENCE.



IN *Alexander* the First, Duke of *Florence*, who was Traiterously and Cruelly Murthered in his Bed, by his familiar and confident Friend, the Ungrateful and Cruel *Laurence de Medicis*, the 6th of *January* in the Year 1537, Ended the Line of the Great *Cosmos*; and was Succeeded by *Cosmos* the Second, Born of *Mary* Daughter of *Giacomo Salviati*; who at Nineteen Years of Age being made Duke, by the Assistance of *Francis Guicciardini*, whose Daughter, when a private Gentleman, he had promised to Marry. But being urg'd by *Guicciardini* to make good the



L'historia Secreta di COSIMO II,

PRIMO

Gran Duca di FIRENZA.



ALESSANDRO primo Duca di Firenze dal ingrata e crudele Lorenzo de Medici Confidentissimo e Familiare, restò iniqua e proditoriamente sopra il proprio letto amazzato alli 6 di Gennaio 1537. nella di cui morte, finì la descendenza di Cosmo il Grande. Successe Cosimo Secondo, (al detto Alessandro) quale detá anni 19, Nato di Maria di Giacomo Salviati : Il Duca Cosimo fatto Duca, recusò il parentado già Stabilito quando era in stato privato, con la figlia di Francesco Guicciardini, con il cui mezzo, e il di cui riguardo, fu portato al Principato; dicendo all Guicciardino, che le pressava ad effettuare

the Promise of Marriage made to his Daughter, he answer'd him briskly, *The Dukes of Florence do not Contract Affinity with private Gentlemen.* This Duke *Cosmos* took to Wife the Lady *Leonora*, Daughter of *Don Pietro* of *Toledo*, Vice-Roy of *Naples*, of whom he begat seven Sons and three Daughters, viz. The 4th Day of *April* 1543, was Born a Daughter, whose Name was *Mary*; upon the 8th of *July* 1545, was Born a Son, Named *John*, advanced afterwards to the Dignity of Cardinal, by Pope *Pius IV*; upon the 1st of *July* 1547, at Six of the Clock, was Born a Son, who was Named *Don Garzia*; upon the 3^d of *July* 1549, was Born a Son, Named *Ottavino*; on the 30th of *June* 1550, was Born *Ferdinand*, who was made Cardinal, and afterwards Great-Duke, by the Death of the Great-Duke *Francis* his Brother, who was Born 1541; on the 7th of *September* 1553, was Born a Daughter, Named *Isabella*; upon the 9th of *November* 1556, he had another Son Born to him, Named *Petrino*; on the 30th of *July* the following Year, he had another Son Born to him, Named *Don Francisco*; and thus being Blessed with a numerous Family, the Dutcheſs his Wife delighted to spend her Time in *Pisa*, especially the Winter Season, to avoid the sharp Air of *Florence*, and also the Conspirations of the Inhabitants, Recreating her self in the Company of the Young Princes, her Sons, in the Exercise of Hunting, to her great Satisfaction; but there happen'd a very strange Accident one Morning of the Month of *January* 1562, to Cardinal *Giovanni*, the Duke's Second Son, who contending with *Don Garzia* about some Matters relating to the Game, he drawing out his Sword, ran the Cardinal his Brother thro' the Thigh; the Duke *Cosmos* being appriz'd of the unhappy Accident, ran in haste at the Noise and Cry, but found the Evil was already done, he Dress'd the Wounds with his own Hands, and dispatch'd with all speed, for Mr. *Antonio Venturini* of *Zarazzana*, but there was no Remedy, for the poor Prince died in few Days afterwards.

The

fettuare il Matrimonio, Che il Duca di Fiorenza non s'imparentava con Gentilhuomini privati. Il Duca Cosimo prese per Moglie poco dopo, la Signora Leonora figlia di Don Pietro di Toledo, Vicere di Napoli, dalla quale hebbe sette Maschi, e tre Femine, cioe a di 4 d'April, 1543, ebbe una figlia di nome Maria; a di 8 di Luglio 1545, ebbe uno figlio detto Giovanni, che fu fatto Cardinale da Pio quarto; a di 1 Luglio 1547, a hore 6, naque un figlio Maschio che se nominò Don Garzia; a di 3 Luglio 1549, naque un figlio detto Ottavino; a di 30 di Giugno 1550, naque Ferdinando, che poi fu Cardinale, e poi Gran Duca per la morte del Gran Duca Francesco suo fratello, quale era nato il 25 Marzo 1541; il di 7 Settembre 1553, li naque una figlia detta Isabella; a di 9 Novembre 1556, li naque un altro figlio detto Don Petrinò; a di 30 Luglio d'un altro anno, li naque un figlio Chiamato Don Francesco. E così ritrovandosi con una buona Famiglia, la Signora Duchessa sua Moglie stava volontieri a Pisa, Massime d'inverno, fuggendo l'aere subtile, e le congiure che li faceuano i Fiorentini, riducendosi a la caccia di quei luoghi con gran diletto suo, e di suoi figlii; Avenne però, uno strano Accidente, una mattina del mese di Genaro 1562, al Signore Cardinale Giovanni (secundo figlio del Signior Duca Cosimo) perche questo cominciando a disputare della caccia, con Don Garzia, il quale cacciò la mano ala spada, e passò la cossia al Cardinale. Il Duca Cosimo inteso il fatto, corse al rumore; ma trovò il male già fatto, e di sua mano fece le Chiarate al Cardinale, e subito fu spedito per Maestro Antonio Venturini da Sarazzana, ma non vi era remedio, sì che il povero Signore indi a pochi di, si morì a Livorno. Venendosi

The Duke coming to *Pisa*, in order to go to *Florence*, the Dutchess *Leonora*, who Loved *Don Garzia* as her own Eyes, called him and said, Go *Don Garzia*, throw your self at your Father's Feet, and beg his Pardon for the Mistake committed ; he having nothing else in view but to pay Obedience to his Mother's Orders, threw himself on his Knees, in the presence of the Duke, his Father, with Tears in his Eyes, and humbly begg'd his Pardon for what was past; but the Duke little heeding what his Son said, but surpriz'd and overpower'd with the Heat of Anger (in as much as the Dutchess was too hasty, in not expecting till the Duke, had allay'd his Passion) he put his Hand to his Sword and Killed his own Son humbly Prostrated at his Feet. As soon as the Dutchess was informed of the Melancholy Tidings, overwhelm'd with inexpressible Grief of Mind, she betook her self to Bed, and in few Hours Died miserably Strifled under the heaviest Pangs of Sorrow. The three Corps were put in Coffins, and were carried, at the same time, one after the other, into *Florence*, the Citizens and all the People running Tumultuously to see this New and Extraordinary Spectacle ; so that by the Death of so many Princes, the Glory and Grandeur of the House of *Medicis* was much Eclipsed.

Mary, the Eldest Daughter of Duke *Cosmos*, was likewise a very Beautiful and Charming Princess, but one of her Father's Pages, the Son of *Malatesta* Lord of *Rimini*, being greatly in Love with her, and reciprocally she with him ; it happen'd one Morning, that *Madramo*, an Old Spaniard that waited on the Dutchess's Ladies, and being always at the Chamber Door, he espy'd that the Young Princess took the Page about the Neck and Kissed him, and that he did the same to her, this he communicated to the Dutchess, and the Dutchess to the Duke; whereupon it was resolved and agreed upon, that the Princess their Daughter should be Kill'd with Poyson, and 'twas executed accordingly, and thereupon

dose il Duca a Pisa, per tornare a Fiorenza, la Duchessa Leonora che amava Don Garzia quanto l'occhi suoi, e pensando che al Padre fusse passato la colera, lo chiamò a lei, e dissele; Andate Don Garzia, e inginocchiatevi al vostro Padre, e chiedeteli perdono del errore fatto! Egli senza pensare ad altro, e per obbedire alla Madre, andò avanti al Duca suo Padre genuflesso, chiedendoli perdono, ma, i sangui che non erano ancora fermati, è tuttavia stava il Gran Duca in gran Smania, e gran Colera, e perche la Duchessa ebbe troppo fretta, il Padre vedendo il Figlio che umilmente e con le lagrime al'occhi li chiedesse perdono del eccesso fatto; Il Duca non badando a cio che diceva il figliuolo, soprafatto dalla colera, cacciò mano alla spada, e nello stesso atto del umiltà, l'amazzò, questo inteso che fu dalla Duchessa il caso Miserabile, sorpresa dal dolore, si pose in letto e soffocata dalla doglia, in poche hore miseramente morì. Vennero in cassa, a Fiorenza tutti i tre cadaveri un doppio l'altro, facendo i cittadini ed il populo a tal novita, un gran tumulto, e per la morte di tanti Seigniori finirono le felicità di questa casa.

Maria, figlia prima del Duco Cosimo, fu ancora essa una bella e gratiosa Giovine, ma essendo in corte un Paggio, figlio del Seignore Malatesta Seignore di Rimini, s'invaghi questo giovane de essa Seignora, e lei scambiorvolmente s'amorò di lui, ed essendo a guardia delle Dame della Seignora Duchessa Elenora, uno Spagnolo vecchio, nominato Madramo, il quale assistendo del continuò a la porta della camera, una matina, offervò e vide, che detta Seignora avea dato un baccio al collo al detto giovane, e il giovane a lei, subito fattone il reporto al Duchessa, e la Duchessa datone parte al Duca, fu Ordinato finalmente che s'avelenasse la Seignora Maria loro figlia, e così fu fatto; del quale veleno in
meno

upon falling Sick, Dyed in less than one Month. The Page was put in Prison, where he was detain'd 12 Years, but *Malatesta* his Father coming to *Florence*, to pay his respects to the Duke, humbly pray'd his Highness to have Compassion and Pity on the Youth, and to Enlarge him from Prison. The Duke replied, *I shall give Orders that you may stay eight or ten Days with your Son, and Examine him your self, whom if you shall find worthy of Enlargement, I'll give you Satisfaction.* The Father went, and having examined his Son, return'd to thank the Duke for so great a Favour; but the Duke answer'd him, notwithstanding his Son's Innocence, *Sir, I condescend that your Son may be enlarged from his present Confinement, and be Secur'd in the Fortrefs of Bresso;* whence afterwards he made his Escape, by the assistance of a Corporal, who was Hang'd for it: and the Duke *Cosimos*, being exceedingly incensed at his Flight, got him Pursu'd as far as *Candia*, whither he was gone to find his Father, who was there General for the *Venetians*, and was Assassin'd there, but the Murtherer was Kill'd upon the Spot, by the Hand of *Giacomo Malatesta*, the Father of the Fugitive Youth.

Lucrezia, Duke *Cosimos's* Second Daughter, was the First Wife of *Alfonso* Duke of *Ferrara*, who soon perceiv'd that he had but the least share in her Love, wherefore he sought all means possible to procure her Death; which he effected, to the great Sorrow of her Father, who perswaded himself to be very happy in contracting Affinity with so Powerful a Prince; but would never pay him the rest of the Dowry promised by Articles of Marriage; whereupon a Suit at Law was Commenc'd in the Emperor's Court, but Duke *Cosimos* making his Complaint and Case known, shewing how his Daughter was Basely Betray'd and Cruelly Murther'd; the Emperor told the Parties, that he would neither pronounce Sentence in favour of the Duke of *Ferrara*, nor against Duke *Cosimos*.

Duke

meno d'un mese, s'amalo, e mori. Ed il Paggio fu subito posto in carcere segrete, dove stette 12 anni. Venne poi il Seignior Giacomo Malatesta in Fiorenza il suo Padre, e andato a riverire il Duca Cosimo, lo pregò a voler scusare la gioventù, e a voler liberare il figlio di carcere. Il Duca lui rispose, Io darò commissione tale, che potrete stare otto o dieci giorni con il vostro figlio, ed esaminatelo voi stesso, e se vi paria che meriti la libertà, io vi satisfaro; ed andato il Padre e avendo esaminato il suo figlio, tornò poi per ringratiar al Duca, di quanto s'era compaciuto concedergli; ma il gran Duca nonostante che non lo meritasse, li disse, Io mi contento che resti in cambio delle segrete, nella fortezza di Bresslo; d'ove poi, pel mezzo del Corporale, trovò modo di fuggire, ed il Corporale fu impicato. Il Duca Cosimo sdegnato grandemente per la fuga del giovane, lo fece perseguire fino in Candia, ove s'era fuggito, e ove era il Padre Generale per gli Veneziani, e la fu amazzato, e nel instante il Seignior Giacomo Padre, amazzò quello, chi avea amazzato il figliolo.

Lucrezia, seconda figlia del Duca Cosimo, fu la prima Moglia d'Alfonso Duca di Ferrara; ma ben tosto s'avide il Duca, che non era amato da lei, onde procurava ad ogni modo, di farla morire; siccome fece con grandissimo dispiacere del Padre, che li pareva dovere fatto un bel colpo d'esser collegato seco in Parentado; ne mai li volse dare il resto del dote, conforme a le Conventioni; del che ne fu mosso lite avanti l'Imperatore, con il quale si dolse il Duca Cosimo, che la figlia fusse stata tradita e crudelmente amazzata, di maniera che l'Imperatore si lasciò intendere al Duca Cosimo, che non haverebbe mai dato la Sentenza in favore del Duca di Ferrara, ni contra il Duca Cosimo.

Maritò

Duke *Cosimos* Married *Isabella* his Third Daughter to Don *Giordano Ursino*, a Roman Nobleman; she had been before promised to Don *Fabiano del Monte*, Nephew to Pope *Julius III.* but he Dying against the *Turks*, in the Wars of *Hungary*, she was Married into the Family of *Ursini*; this Lady was not only Beautiful, but was a great *Virtuosa*, speaking *French*, *Spanish* and *Latin*; she Learned to Sing, and to Play on all Instruments, and was so largely Enrich'd with Natural Endowments, that she made Verses Extempore; she was Beloved of the Duke her Father, something more than ordinarily, which gave occasion to many disadvantageous Reflections; her Husband Lived mostly in *Rome*, tho' she greatly Bewailed his Absence, thinking it the most Uncomfortable sort of Life, to live without her Husband, tho' those that were about her, gave her still fresh Hopes of his speedy Return; but she used to tell them Mournfully, *that she was neither Ice nor Marble*; and because of his unreasonable Delay, she went about to provide for her own Necessity, after the most Scandalous manner imaginable, so that in few Years, she had two Daughters Born to her in her Husband's Absence, which were conveyed to an Hospital. Duke *Cosimos*, Conscious to all her Doings, did bear with her very patiently, but yet not forbearing to tell her, *Isabella, I am not to Live always.* And therefore, *Signor Pietro Gonzaga*, was ordered, in one Hours space, to go out of the City, and within three Days out of the State of *Florence*. Her Husband had Constituted *Signor Troilo Ursino*, his Kinsman,

Maritò il Duca Cosimo Isabella sua terza figlia, a Don Pauplo Giordano Ursino Barone Romano, che prima era stata promessa al Signor Fabiano del Monte, Nipote di Giulio terzo, ma morendo nel Hungaria contra il Gran Turca, segui poi con L'Ursino. Questa Signora era non solo bella, ma virtuosa, perche oltre alla lingua materna, haveva la Spagnola, Francese, e la Latina; sonava tutti l'instrumenti, cantava di Musica, ma sopra tutto era dotata dalla natura, che al improvviso faceva versi, fu amata dal Duca suo Padre, di maniera che correva voce poca honesta di loro, Il marito si stava in piu del tempo a Roma, ancorche ella, se ne dolesse grandemente tutto il giorno, parendoli strano stare senza Marito, se bene egli chi era appresso, la confortava dicendoli, che in breve s'aspettava il ritorno di Paulo suo marito. Ella lamentandosi, che non era di giaccio ne di Marmo, s'andava passando il tempo con molti guai, e per la tardanza, s'andava procacciando a suoi bisogni alla piu legiera che fusse possibile, si che in pochi anni ebbe ella senza il marito, due figlie, lequali furno mandate allo spedale de' Nocenti. Il Duca Cosimo, al quale erano note tutte queste cose, le tollerava mal volentieri, compatendo a la figliola, ma per questo non gli ristava di dirgli, Isabella io non ho da vivere sempre: E per tal conto fu fatto Comandamento al Signor Pietro Gonzaga, che in termine d'un' hora, si partisse di Fiorenza, e fratre di, fusse fori del stato. Era stato lassato a guardia di questa Signora dal Signor Paulo suo Marito, il Signor Troilo Ursini suo Parente, il quale si procurò la gratia della medesima, e si teneva per fermo, che una figlia, e uno figlio, ambedue di nome Virginio, fussero del detto Troilo, e non del Marito. Fecce per gelosia ove.

Kinsman to watch her Conduct; but he himself partook of her Favours, and 'twas constantly believ'd, that a Son and a Daughter, both Named *Virginio*, were *Troilo's* Children, and not the Husband's. The same Seignor *Troilo*, egg'd on with Jealousy and Suspicion, caused the Black Page, *Pietro Torello da Fermo*, to be assassinated, for whom the Princess *Isabella* seem'd to have a very Passionate Kindness. Her Scandalous Excesses arrived at last to that degree of Impudence, that her own Brother, the Cardinal, did send Pasquils and Lampoons from *Rome* to *Florence*, and her own Husband was necessitated to take Measures for her Assassination; of which being before apprehensive, and fearing, sooner or later, some Melancholy Catastrophe, she desired the Protection of *Catherine de Medicis*, Queen of *France*, which she granted her, and withal, intreated her to make her Escape to *Genoua*, where she was to be receiv'd, and brought to *Marseilles*, and from thence Conducted to the Court at *Paris*. But 'twas God's pleasure that this Project should not take effect. In the meanwhile, her Lewdness was grown too large for any Veil or Masking, so that upon the 11th of *July* 1570, Don *Paulo Giordano* her Husband, went with his *Isabella* to *Coretto Guidi*, Accompanied with Madam *Lucrezia Frescobaldi*, her Governante, and two other Maids; Don *Paulo* sent her two Spaniels, to Divert her self in Hunting, desiring to know if she would Sleep with him that Night? whereupon turning to Madam *Lucrezia*, she said, *shall I go, or shall I not?*

ro per sospetto il medesimo Seignor Troilo amazzare Pietro Torello da Fermo, Paggio nero del Gran Duca, del qual giovane Isabella si mostrava molto Affetionata, accioche non si alienasse del suo amore. Era arivata a tal segno, la Licenza di questa Seignora, che fino di Roma, venivano cartelle, e pasquinate dal Cardinale suo fratello, onde Pauolo Urlino suo marito fu necessitato per propria reputatione, a venire a qual che resolutione per amazzarla: la Seignora Isabella che se n'era imaginata un tempo i nanzi, di dover aspettar tosto o tardo un simil morte suenturata, chiese aiuto a Caterina Regina di Francia, e ella la consigliò e pregò che ella fugisse a Genoua, ove aveva ordinato che fusse ricevuta, e condotta a Marsiglia, e di quivi menata ben guardata alla Corte di Parigi; ma quel accordo, non segui, che così non era la volontà di Dio. Mentre che le cose sue erano così scaperte, che non vi era più luogo a colorire i suoi pensieri, e così una mattina che fu il dì 11 di Luglio 1570, Don Pauolo Giordano andò, con la Seignora Isabella à Corretto Guidi, con Madama Lucrezia Frescoboldi sua Matrona, e due altre donne di servitio, il Seignor Pauolo mandò un giorno a donare due cani brache alla Seignora, per provarli la mattina a la caccia, e mandoli a dire se voleva la sera venire a dormire seco? ella voltandosi a Donna Lucrezia li disse, Vo io, o no? rispo-

not? *Lucrezia* reply'd, you may do as you think fit, he is your *Husband*; she went therefore, and no sooner arriv'd, but *Seignor Paulo* began to Caress her, and laying her on a Bed, as if designing to Sleep with her; and while lying with her Face upwards, a Cord, from behind the Bed, was thrown about her Neck, and with much ado they Strangl'd her, and she was carried to *Florence*; but in putting her in a Coffin, she was observ'd to be Black and Blue, which mightily displeas'd the whole City, every one saying, that they should have remedied the Evil, before the *Duke Francisco*, *Cardinal Ferdinando* and her other Brothers had Debauch'd her, taking her out in the Night, in Man's Habit, with other Lewd Women, and pretending now she should Live without a Husband. This was the Tragical End of *Cosmos's* Daughter, all Sympathizing with him, and Condoling his great Disgrace.

The Duke lay under great Obligations to the House of *Toledo*, and to give some Proof of his Acknowledgment, he took under his Protection, a Daughter of *Don Garzia* of *Toledo*, his Kinsman; she was not only extraordinary Beautiful, but very Witty and Ingenious, the Duke was in love with her Charms, and his familiar Conversation with her, at last got her with Child; of which the Duke *Cosmos* being apprised, sent for one of his Ministers, and order'd her to be given in Marriage to *Don Pietro de Medicis*, his Son, who some while after was Enrich'd with a Son

se ella, Lei faccia che vole, egli e suo marito ; andò dunque, e andata che fu, cominciò il Seignor Paulo ad accarezzarla, e baciarla, e poi la messe sopra d'un letto, con finta di volersi conjungere seco, e mentre ella stava supina, li fu mosso di dietro al letto, un laccio al collo, e si disse che durono gran fatica a strangolarla, e di poi portata a Fiorenza, e fattoli Mortorio, si vide esser nera, in modo che ne increbbe tutta la città, e ciascuna diceva che bisognava aver rimediato prima che il Padre e il Gran Duca Francesco, e il Cardinale Ferdinando, ed altri suoi fratelli si servissero del mezzo suo, di cavarli le loro voglie, con l'altre donne della città, menandola tutta notte fuora vestita da huomo, e voler poi che ella fusse senza marito, questo fu il fine del figliole del Cosimo, la disgratia del quale fu da tutti compianta.

Havea il Duca Gran obbligo alla casa di Toledo, e per demonstrarla in qualunque sorte, prese la protezione d'una figlia di Don Garzia di Toledo suo cognato, che oltre alla bellezza era dotata di Spirito vivace e pronto, questa Seignora era amata dal Duca Cosimo, e per la Domestichezza di tal Conversatione venendo a goderla, essa ne restò gravida, avedutosi di ciò il Duca, havendo subito mandato chiamar un suo Ministro fece trattare a darla per Moglie a Don Pietro de Medicis suo figlio, la quale a suo tempo partorì un Maschio, e

Son, Named *Cosmos*. This Lady likewise came to an Unhappy and Tragical End, because her Lewd manner of Living scandalized all the Neighbourhood, so that all Honest People were much disgusted at her Proceedings. Don *Pietro de Medicis* did not much value her Love, as being his very near Relation, by his Mother's side, and being himself Young,, and as 'tis thought, did not much care for Female Embraces. His Wife being a great Beauty, and knowing her Husband's Conduct, she began likewise to be more liberal of her Favours, and there were not wanting many that made up her Train; amongst others, was one *Alexander*, Son to Captain *Pandolfo Geri* of *Castiglione Aretino*, who was one of her Languishing Knights, but being soundly Threatned, he was Frighted out of his Wits, and for fear made himself a Capuchin; but her Commerce with the Chevalier *Bernardino Antinori*, was so openly Scandalous, that all the City cry'd shame at their Impudent Practices; and for want of due Respect to his Prince, the Hang-man was sent to him, accompanied with a Confessor at his Side, who asked him if he had a mind to Confess his Sins, for he had but one Hour to live? No sooner had he finished his Confession, but that he beg'd leave to write, which was granted him, and Pen, Ink and Paper being brought, he began to write, but his Hand so Trembled, that he could not bring Pen to Paper; the Executioner, seeing 'twas but Time lost, Bound him, and putting the Halter about his Neck, Strangled him. The Chevalier, his Brother,

gli fu posto nome Cofimo. Questa Seignora fece lei ancora un cativo fine, perche il vivere suo licentioso ed immoderato, movema le città circonvicine ad improprietà e rinfacciamenti, in modo che le persone tutte e il popolo più sensato, ne riceveva disgusto. Il Seignor Don Pietro di Medici come giovane, poco apprezzava l'amore della moglie, che era cugina, come nata d'un fratello della madre, o che avea altri pensieri che il sesso femminile; la moglie che era bella, e ne sapea la vita del marito, allargava anco ella la mano, che però si dettero al corteggio di detta Seignora molti, e fra altri un tal Alessandro figlio del Capitano Pandolfi Geri da Casteglione Aretino, il quale faceva lo spasimato, ma essendo minacciando, dal timore si fece Capuino, ma con il Cavaliero Bernardino Antinori passavano le cose tanto pubbliche, nella città che non si parlava d'altro, e finalmente per il poco rispetto portato al suo Principe, una mattina comparse il bargello con un prete, e li fu detto, che se voleva confessarsi, non avea più tempo d'un hora, e più doveva morire, confessato che fu, demandò in grazia di scrivere, e gli fu concesso, e portatoli il foglio penna e calamaio, cominciò a scrivere, ma la mano li tremava tanto, che non poteva acostarla al foglio, il bargello conoscendo che non si dava in niente, li fece mettere le manette, e doppo un capestro al collo, e quivi, fu

ther, being quickly inform'd of his Tragical End, made his Escape to *France*; but being Pursu'd, was there Assassinated. After this, Resolutions were taken to Punish *Donna Leonora* her self; but being apprehensive of the Danger that attended her, she writ to her Father at *Naples*, for Protection; but 'twas now too late for all was just ripen'd for her approaching Ruine; therefore, taking her last Farewel and Adieu of her Son *Cosmos*, with Kisses, and Embraces mixt with Tears, she was Conducted, by order of Don *Pietro* her Husband, to a place called *Cafogio*, where she was Poignarded to Death by her own Husband, in the same Chamber, and on the same Day, where *Isabella* had been before Assassinated; then she was put in a Coffin and carried to *Florence*, her Funeral Ceremonies were Celebrated, but the Corps was not expos'd to View. 'Tis reported, that when her Corps was remov'd, *Anno 1608.* from the Sacristy to the Vault, it appear'd entire, Cloath'd all in White, and seem'd as if it had been only Sleeping.

In the Year 1568. the Great Duke *Cosmos*, finding himself indisposed to Live without a Woman, he Convers'd with Madam *Leonora*, Daughter of *N. Albizzi*, and he had enjoy'd her Company for some time; but finding in her too much Vivacity, and her Joaking Humour carried her a little too far, for she play'd him often some unlucky Trick or other, and more especially one time, when the Great Duke was a going to sit down, she

Strangolato. Il Cavalier Francesco suo fratello avisato della sventurata morte del fratello, se ne fugi in Francia, dove fu poi ancor egli fatto ammazzare; si pensò dappo castigare la cagna, la Donna Leonora (che così era il suo nome) dubbiosa del evento di se medesima, ne scrisse al Padre a Napoli, accio la ricevesse, ma non vi fu più tempo, giache la pera era matura, e così detta Signora Leonora dappo fatte le dipartenze con Don Cosimo suo figlio, con molti bacci e abbracciamenti e lagrime, fu condotta a Cafogiolo, luogo dove dimostrava Don Pietro suo marito, e la sera medesima che arrivò, in quella stanza istessa, a furore di pugnalette dal istesso marito, nel dì medesimo che fu ammazzata la Signora Isabella; poi fu incassata e mandata o Fiorenza, furonli fatte l'esequie, ma non veduta e chi ha scritto queste cose dice che l'anno 1608, ella fu cavata dal sacrestia nuova, e porlatala su le volte, la videro così bella, che era cosa di marviglia, non essendo putrefatta ne guasta, e pareva che dormisse, e era tutta vestita di bianca.

Di poi l'anno 1568, il Gran Duca Cosimo parendo per età sua di non poter stare senza Donna, ebbe commercio con Leonora figlia di N. Albizzi, e godutala qualche tempo, ma dapoi per la gioventù e galiardo cervello, d'esso le faceva quando un burla, e quando ~~una~~ altra, fino che volendo una
volta

she snatch'd away the Chair, which caused him
 to fall backward, hitting his Head violently against
 the Ground ; whereupon he took a Resolution to
 be even with her, giving orders to his Ministers
 to Marry her to *Charles Bartholomeo Panciatici*,
 one to whom the Duke had stood Godfather.
 At last, he fell in Love with *Camilla* Daughter
 of *Antonio Martelli*, a Poor *Florentine* Gentleman,
 who had Married his other to one *Ginucci*, a Shoe-
 maker ; it happen'd that at this time the Duke's
 Affairs call'd him to *Rome*, invited thither by
 Pope *Pius V.* to bestow upon him the Title of
Great Duke ; and having Confess'd his Sins to
 the Pope himself, was exhorted earnestly,
 by his Holiness, to Marry that Young Wo-
 man ; which he effected at his Return to *Flo-*
rence, tho' not publicly in Church, being ex-
 cus'd in that Regard by the Pope's express Indul-
 gence, yet in Private all the Nuptial Ceremonies
 were observ'd, and her Father being there pre-
 sent (thanking him that he was pleased to
 Honour him with that Marriage) asked the
 Great Duke, if 'twas his pleasure that the
 World should know that he was Married to
 his Daughter ? the Great Duke said, *Yes* ; where-
 upon going out, he met one *Allemanno de Pazzi*,
 a near Relation of his, to whom he said, I
 have Married my Daughter *Camilla* to the
 Great Duke. *Allemanno* replied, *I wish you much*
Joy with all my Soul, Mr. Antonio ; whereupon
Allemanno hasten'd to the Palace, and demand-
 ed Audience, and being introduced to the Great
 Duke, he Complimented him on the Occasion
 of

volta il detto Seignore Duca sedere, ella burlando tirò a se la seggiola, ed egli cadde al indietro percotendo malamente la testa. Egli pero considerando que questa giovane gli ne faceva troppo, le parve obbligo suo di pigliarne il compenso di lei, e la maritò a Carlo di Bartholomeo Panciatici tenuto du lui a battesimo. Finalmente s'invagi di Camilla figlia di Antonio Martelli povero gentilhuomo, e in qual mentre venne occasione al Duca Cosimo dandare a Roma, chiamato da Pio V. che creandolo Gran Duca di Toscona, si confessò do lui e il Pontefice l'esortò a sposare detta fanciulla (benche la sua sorella detta Maria era maritata ad un calzolaio, detto Ginucci) sicome poi fece egli, alla sua tornata, dispensandolo che non dovesse publicarsi in chiesa, alla quale Ceremonie ci intervenne il Padre, ringratiandolo che l'avesse fatto degno di questo matrimonio? e dicendoli vuole S. A che si sapia, rispose il Gran Duca di si, che lo dicesse a chi le piaceva, e rincontrando nella piazza Allemanno de Pazzi, suo cugino a cui disse, ho maritato la Camilla mia figlia al Gran Duca Cosimo. Buon pro vi faccia rispose li, Miser Antonio, io me ne rallegro tanto tanto, e andatosene Alemanno al Palazzo, chiese audienza, e fu introdotto al Gran Duca, al quale dette il buon prò,
rallegrandosi

of his Marriage with one of his near Relations ;
to whom the Great Duke replied very Seriously,
*Mr. Allemanno, I would have you know, that we
have no Relation, but Emperors, Kings and Dukes,*
and so dismiss'd him.



F I N I S.

ralleggrandosi che avesse prese per moglie una sua Nipote; ma il Gran Duca li rispose, Miser Alemanno noi non habbiamo altri parenti che l'Imperatore, Regi, e Duche, e cosi lo licentio.



F I N I S.

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Handwritten text at the bottom of the page, possibly a signature or a date, appearing as 'F I M I 2'.

